

HOUSE BILL NO. 371

INTRODUCED BY LAMBERT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING THAT MONEY FROM ANY SOURCE MAY BE PLACED IN THE COUNTY PREDATORY ANIMAL CONTROL FUNDS TO BE USED FOR COUNTY PREDATORY ANIMAL CONTROL; AMENDING SECTIONS 81-7-303 AND 81-7-603, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 81-7-303, MCA, is amended to read:

"81-7-303. County commissioners permitted to require per capita license fee on sheep. (1) To defray the expense of protection, the board of county commissioners of a county may require all owners or persons in possession of a sheep 1 year of age or older in the county on the regular assessment date of each year as provided in 15-24-903 to pay a per capita license fee in an amount to be determined by the board. All owners or persons in possession of a sheep 1 year of age or older coming into the county after the regular assessment date and subject to the per capita levy under the provisions of Title 15, chapter 24, part 9, are subject to payment of the license fee.

(2) Upon the order of the board of county commissioners, the license fees may be imposed by entering the name of the licensee upon the assessment record of the county by the department of revenue. The license fees are payable to and must be collected by the county treasurer. When levied, the fees are a lien upon the property, both real and personal, of the licensee. If the person against whom the license fee is levied does not own real estate against which the license fee is or may become a lien, then the license fee is payable immediately upon its levy and the treasurer shall collect the fee in the manner provided by law for the collection of personal property taxes that are not a lien upon real estate.

(3) When collected, the fees must be placed in the predatory animal control fund and the fund may be expended on order of the board of county commissioners of the county for predatory animal control only.

(4) Money from any source may be deposited in the predatory animal control fund provided for in this section to carry out the provisions of this part."

Section 2. Section 81-7-603, MCA, is amended to read:

"81-7-603. County commissioners permitted to levy per capita license fee on cattle. (1) To defray the expense of protection, the board of county commissioners may require all owners or persons in possession of any cattle 9 months old or older in the county on the regular assessment date of each year as provided in 15-24-903 to pay a per capita license fee in an amount to be determined by the board. All owners or persons in possession of cattle 9 months old or older coming into the county after the regular assessment date and subject to the per capita levy under the provisions of Title 15, chapter 24, part 9, are subject to payment of the license fee.

(2) Upon the order of the board of county commissioners, the license fee may be imposed by entering the name of the licensee upon the assessment record of the county by the department of revenue. The license fee is payable to the county treasurer. When levied, the fee is a lien upon the property, both real and personal, of the licensee. If the person against whom the license fee is levied does not own real estate against which the license fee is or may become a lien, then the license fee is payable immediately upon its levy and the treasurer shall collect the fee in the manner provided by law for the collection of personal property taxes that are not a lien upon real estate.

(3) The fees must be placed in a predatory animal control fund separate from the fund provided for in 81-7-303. The money in the predatory animal control fund may be expended by the board of county commissioners only for the predatory animal control program.

(4) Money from any source may be deposited in the predatory animal control fund provided for in this section to carry out the provisions of this part."

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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